



Conductor

Robert Hart Baker



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Complete artist information including video, audio and interviews are available at www.pricerubin.com

Robert Hart Baker – Biography

Robert Hart Baker has been the conductor of the St. Louis Philharmonic since 1982. He has served as principal guest conductor with the Asheville Lyric Opera Company since 2004. He is *Music Director Laureate* of the Harrisburg Choral Society & Orchestra and the York Symphony Orchestra & Chorus in Pennsylvania, and is *conductor laureate* of the Asheville Symphony Orchestra.

His broad repertoire of classical symphonic, opera, choral and ballet scores are complemented by his skills as a Pops conductor, and he has received critical praise on the podium here and abroad in all genres. His work the York Symphony Association has earned two awards from the League of American Orchestras (*Student Song Contest* in 2003 and *Saturday Morning Symphony* in 2005). His DVD of the St. Louis Philharmonic *Holiday Spectacular* won the national Telly Award in 2004 for best classical local cable TV production. In December 2007, his holiday video with the Kirkwood Children's Chorale was in the finals of NBC's nationally-televised competition *Clash Of The Choirs*. His latest DVD with the same forces is "2010 Holiday Pops Concert", with a new Blu-ray video recording with the Philharmonic "Mario Frangoulis & Friends" released in November 2012. He is currently on the faculty of Lindenwood University as Instructor of Oboe. His performance as oboist of the Bach *Concerto for Violin and Oboe* with violin soloist Odin Rathnam and the York Symphony is on YouTube. He is also Conductor of the Cadenza Orchestra as part of the St. Charles County Youth Orchestra staff, and serves as Artistic Consultant to artist management firm Price Rubin and Partners in Tulsa.

Robert Hart Baker is one of the most experienced conductors of his generation, with a vast repertoire from Bach to Stravinsky. Among the more than 1000 concerts he has led have been complete cycles of the Beethoven, Brahms, Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky symphonies and Strauss tone poems, in addition to most of the orchestral works of Mahler, Dvorak, Schubert, Debussy, Ravel, Poulenc and Ernest Bloch.

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Robert Hart Baker – Biography

Dr. Baker holds a diploma in conducting from the Mozarteum Conservatory in Salzburg, where he studied with Herbert Von Karajan, and a BA *cum laude* from Harvard where he studied conducting privately with Leonard Bernstein for two years, and was conductor of the Bach Society Orchestra for two seasons. He received his doctorate in orchestral conducting from Yale in 1987, where he served as an assistant to Aaron Copland and studied privately with Otto-Werner Mueller and Arthur Weisberg. He has twice won the ASCAP Award for Contemporary Music Programming, once during his tenure as Conductor with the New York Youth Symphony at Carnegie Hall, and once with the York Symphony. For eleven years, he served as the Music Director of the York Youth Symphony, and was named *conductor laureate* after successful debuts on tour to Carnegie Hall in New York and Heinz Hall in Pittsburgh. In 1999, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from York College of Pennsylvania.

His tenure with his orchestras has been distinguished by collaborations with many prominent soloists, including pianists Seth Carlin, Valentina Igoshina, Anne-Marie McDermott, Christopher O'Riley, Peter Serkin, Andre Watts and Jingyi Zhang, violinists Joshua Bell, Sarah Chang, Pip Clarke, Pamela Frank, David Halen, Daniel Heifetz, Janice Martin and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, violist Paul Neubauer, cellists Zuill Bailey, Carter Brey and Richard Hirschl, Daniel Lee and Janos Starker, saxophonist Branford Marsalis, flutists James Galway and Carol Wincenc, clarinetist David Shifrin, guitarist Angel Romero, and mezzo-soprano Jennifer Larmore. At the 10th anniversary concert of the Asheville Lyric Opera, he had the pleasure of conducting arias with a stellar cast of singers from the Metropolitan Opera, including soprano Angela Brown, tenor Tonio Di Paolo, and baritone Sherrill Milnes.

As a guest conductor he has appeared with many American orchestras, including Billings, Chattanooga, Cheyenne, Flagstaff, Harrisburg, Muskegon, Providence, Quincy (IL), Roanoke and Radio City Music Hall, to name but a few. He made his debut in 2010 with the Boston Pops as part of its 125th anniversary celebration, with violin soloist Lynn Chang. His most recent international guest conducting engagements have been with the Regina Symphony (Canada), Orquestra do Norte (Portugal), the Vratza State Philharmonic Orchestra (Bulgaria), the Tito Schipa Symphony Orchestra (Italy), and the State of Mexico Symphony Orchestra. He has appeared as an opera conductor with the

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Spoletto Festival, Brevard Music Center, Connecticut, and Cullowhee Festival opera companies. At Spoleto, he made his European opera debut conducting Samuel Barber's *Antony and Cleopatra*, and served as an assistant conductor to Gian Carlo Menotti. He has conducted the North Carolina Dance Theatre ballet company on three occasions. Robert was the founding Music Director of the Connecticut Philharmonic Orchestra at age 22, receiving critical acclaim for its debut in Boston Symphony Hall.

He has compact disc and DVD releases on several record labels, including Denon, Ernest Bloch Society, and Sonari. His arrangement of the Borodin *Nocturne for String Orchestra* with the English Chamber Orchestra is a best-seller on Vanguard. He is married to flutist Barbra Duvall Baker. The busy musical couple has performed chamber music together at professional music festivals in St. Petersburg Russia, Cooperstown, NY and White Plains, NY (Performers of Westchester Series).

[full biography revised May 2015]
{for a shorter bio, use just the first 4 paragraphs}



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[revised May 2015]



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Robert Hart Baker – Reviews and Testimonials

Quotes from Reviews...

"Conductors like Mr. Baker do not happen every day, unfortunately."

Christian Science Monitor

"The performances of the evening were all of superior quality."

The New York Times

"His beat is economical and clear, and he got some splendid playing from the orchestra. The highlight of the evening was a near stupefying performance of Copland's Organ Symphony--- much better, in fact, than the one extant recording of it [by Leonard Bernstein] "

The New York Daily News

"As Copland wrote it [Symphony for Organ and Orchestra], and these players delivered it, this is a manifesto that all but tears the walls down. It was, in more than one sense, a blast! These people certainly made beautiful music together; it was on the forceful side of beautiful, out of proportion to their numbers or age or anything else."

The Boston Globe

"Baker is recognized as one of the most promising young conductors in the country."

The Arts Journal, NC

"Baker is a conductor of economic gesture and clear intentions. He knows exactly what he is after and how to achieve it, keeping an eye on the large design without slighting the details. His own and the orchestra's abilities were further demonstrated in concise, well-tailored accounts of Wagner's Rienzi Overture and Schubert's Symphony No.5."

Musical America - May 1984

"Baker got the Bach Society Orchestra to make the kind of resonant attacks that one associates only with a highly sophisticated kind of orchestral technique."

The Boston Globe

"We are deeply indebted to the orchestra and to its conductor Robert Hart Baker for making available a work [Bloch Symphony in C-sharp minor] that knowledgeable listeners have been clamoring to hear for years. His conception of the piece is quite convincing."

Fanfare, Vol.9, No.3 - January 1986

"A smooth controlled style of conducting is his strongest talent."

Chattanooga News-Free Press

"The St. Louis Philharmonic has struck gold in Robert Hart Baker."

St. Louis Globe-Democrat

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Robert Hart Baker – Reviews and Testimonials

"Robert Hart Baker's stable leadership has transformed the [St. Louis] Philharmonic into an ensemble worthy of a serious listener's attention...His conducting technique is a model of clarity and precision."

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

"Baker's conducting technique is a model of clarity and precision. Whatever went on in rehearsal, however, must have really been something to behold."

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - March 17, 1986

"The production of La Boheme was in every way a success, with fine performances from New York [City] Opera as well as Asheville filling the hall with uniformly superb singing. And the Asheville Symphony, under the direction of Robert Hart Baker, fully realized the sparkling beauty of Puccini's score."

The Asheville Citizen-Times - January 26, 2000

"Music director Robert Hart Baker demonstrated again that he has the fine ability to give shape to the works he conducts. All of his readings were imaginative and he certainly was successful in getting the players to perform."

Asheville Citizen-Times

"The Asheville Symphony has strengths everywhere. Chief among them may be its disciplined but highly expressive conductor, whose every tempo seemed perfect."

The Gaffney Ledger

"Conductor Robert Hart Baker and the Asheville Symphony Orchestra gave one of their finest performances when they played Mahler's Symphony No.4. Baker and his forces were able to surmount the technical difficulties of the piece with finesse and yet have reserves to deliver the emotional wallop of Mahler's music to the large audience that seemed quite moved. Baker's view of the symphony was a spacious one, lingering over the rusticity of the folk-elements but finding tautness for the intense climaxes."

Asheville Citizen Times - February 11, 1991

"Baker's thorough immersion in the style and meaning of the work [Mahler's Symphony No. 2] enabled him to produce a performance that had shape, cogency and spiritual uplift."

Asheville Citizen-Times

"[Baker] delivered floods of musical excitement in the final ASO concert for the season. Baker paced the performance [of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony] to achieve the maximum rugged strength and electric tension complemented by moments of persuasive warmth and sweetness."

The Asheville Citizen-Times - April 23, 1990

"Robert Hart Baker glided into his third York Symphony season on strings of silk."

York Dispatch

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Robert Hart Baker – Reviews and Testimonials

Testimonials...

"Your recording of Papa Bloch's 1st Symphony is GREAT! I hadn't heard the music since my childhood and the effect was fantastic! All the themes came back and move me each time I listen to the music."

Lucienne Bloch Dimitreff (daughter of Ernest Bloch) - November 20, 1985

"Robert is a most capable conductor, he is always aware of all the facets of the music making. He has a vast musical and general culture and has a desire and talent for musical research which he successfully incorporates later on in performance."

Christian Badea (staff conductor) Metropolitan Opera - May 5, 1984

"[Mr. Baker is] a truly wonderful musician. He has warmth and sensitivity, combined with a very good stick technique. His command of the orchestra is excellent and he generates a great deal of respect and enthusiasm from the members."

Daniel Heifetz (concert violinist) - March 26, 1984

"Baker directs music with passion, pain"

"Nearly 200 years ago, Ludwig van Beethoven wrote the music which embodies so much of the passion and pain the world has experienced this past week. Last night, for those who were fortunate enough to have heard the performance of the Beethoven "Fifth Symphony" by the Asheville Symphony under the direction of Robert Hart Baker, numerous facets of that passion and pain were dramatically crystallized. The concert was electrifying from beginning to end but the "Fifth Symphony," performed as it was with breathtaking but magnificently controlled energy and emotion, served to impart and to encourage an attitude of reasoned, rational passion. The evening's performance, dedicated to those thousands suffering from this week's tragedy, was indeed a stunning musical projection of Beethoven's own resolution: "I will grapple with Fate; it will not overcome me." Every beat of this music was symbolic of a universal heartbeat quickened by a determination to alleviate pain and suffering throughout the world without being overcome by the struggle. The Asheville Symphony has launched its 2001-2002 season with a renewed and intensely charged musicality. Our gratitude to all involved."

Asheville Citizen Times - September 20, 2001 Dr. Joyce R. Dorr (former professor and Music Dept. Chair) UNC-Asheville

"On June 12, 2003, I collaborated as violin soloist with Maestro Robert Hart Baker, both as guests, with the Vratza State Philharmonic in Bulgaria. On the program, the "Roman Carnival Overture" of Berlioz, the "Little Violin Concerto" of Tchaikovsky (Serenade Melancolique, Melody in E-flat, and Valse-Scherzo), and the Symphony No.1 of Brahms. We worked together for the dress rehearsal and concert. Working with Maestro Baker and the outstanding, well-prepared orchestra was for me a great joy. Beyond his great earnestness and most intensive internal understanding of the musical processes, the unmistakable sound and the personal style in shaping the musical form impressed in his interpretation of the majestic first symphony of Brahms. I wish for my dear colleague Maestro Baker, whose phenomenal capacities to accompany and whose sensitivity to intentions of musical interpretation in the

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Robert Hart Baker – Reviews and Testimonials

capricious Tchaikovsky pieces were impressively manifested in sound, much success and artistic fulfillment."

Professor Vesselin Paraschkevov Essen
Conservatory (Germany)
Former Concertmaster, Vienna Philharmonic

[rev. Dec. 2011]

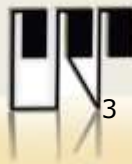


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Robert Hart Baker – Repertoire

ROBERT HART BAKER - Symphonic Guest Conducting Repertoire 2015-16 [rev. Dec. 2014]

I can offer the following pieces from my full-orchestra repertoire that could make a good all-orchestral program. I have conducted these pieces many times. (Program assumes no soloist booked).

1. **Overture:** Dvorak Carnival Overture [10'], or Borodin Prince Igor Overture [10'], or Beethoven Fidelio Overture [6'], or Beethoven Egmont Overture [9'], or Berlioz King Lear Overture [16'], or Berlioz Roman Carnival Overture [8'], or Berlioz Beatrice & Benedict Overture [8'], or Berlioz Le Corsaire Overture [8'], or Berlioz Les Franc-Juges Overture [13'], or Brahms Academic Festival Overture [10'], or Brahms Tragic Overture [13'], or Mendelssohn Hebrides Overture [10'], or Mendelssohn Ruy Blas Overture, [7'] or Mendelssohn Calm Sea & Prosperous Voyage Overture [12'], or Wagner Meistersinger Overture [9'], or Wagner Rienzi Overture [12'], or Wagner Tannhauser Overture [13'], or Shostakovich Festive Overture [7'] or Shostakovich Overture on Kirghiz Themes [10'], or Sibelius Finlandia [8'], or Adams Short Ride In A Fast Machine [4'], or Nelson Rocky Point Holiday [5'], or Copland El Salon Mexico [11'], or Verdi La Forza del Destino Overture [8'], or Verdi Sicilian Vespers Overture [9'], or Verdi Nabucco Overture [8'], or William Schuman American Festival Overture [9'], or Daniel Gregory Mason Chanticleer Festival Overture [15'], or William Grant Still Festive Overture [10']

AND/OR

2. **Short Lyrical Piece:** Barber Intermezzo from "Vanessa" [4'], or Barber Adagio for Strings [8'], Griffes The White Peacock [6'], or Debussy Afternoon of a Faun [10'], or Ravel Pavane for Dead Princess [6'], Borodin Nocturne for String Orchestra [8'], or Delius Walk to Paradise Garden [8']

AND/OR

3. **Tone Poem:** Strauss Death & Transfiguration [23'], or Strauss Don Juan [17'], or Tchaikovsky Capriccio Italien [15'], or Tchaikovsky Marche Slave [10'], or Tchaikovsky Romeo & Juliet [19'], or Tchaikovsky Swan Lake Suite [24'], or Tchaikovsky Sleeping Beauty Suite [23'], or Rimsky-Korsakov Capriccio espagnole [15'], or Rimsky-Korsakov Le Coq d'Or Suite [25'], or Poulenc Les Biches [16'], or Grieg Peer Gynt Suite No.1 [15'], or Grieg Three Pieces from Sigurd Jorsalfar [18'], or Kodaly Dances of Galanta [15'], Respighi Fountains of Rome [15'], or Respighi Pines of Rome [23'], or Respighi La Boutique Fantasque [21'], or Liszt Les Preludes [16'], or Prokofiev Lt. Kije Suite [20'], or Hindemith Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes of Weber [21'], or Britten Matinees Musicales [13'], or Britten Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes [16'], or Ravel Rapsodie espagnole [15'], or Prokofiev Romeo & Juliet Suite No.2 [30'], or William Schuman New England Triptych [16'], or Howard Hanson Merry Mount Suite [15'], or Copland Billy The Kid [21'], or Copland Appalachian Spring [23'], or Dvorak Slavonic Rhapsody No.2 [13'] or Janacek Taras Bulba [23']

4. Intermission

5. **Symphony:** Beethoven Symphony No.5 [31'], or Beethoven Symphony No.7 [36'], Brahms Symphony No.1 [45'], or Brahms Symphony No.2 [40'], or Brahms Symphony No.3 [33'] (w/Hungarian Dances 5&6 as finisher, add 7'), or Brahms Symphony No.4 [39'], or Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique [49'], or Chausson Symphony in B-flat [30'], or Franck Symphony in D minor [37'], or Hanson Symphony No.2 [28'], or Haydn Symphony No.94 "Surprise" [23'], or Haydn Symphony No.103 "Drumroll" [27'], or Haydn Symphony No.104 "London" [29'], or Dvorak Symphony No.8 [34'], or Dvorak Symphony No.9 "New World" [40'], or Shostakovich Symphony No.1 [28'], or Shostakovich Symphony No.5 [44'], or Hindemith Mathis der Mahler Symphony [25'], Tchaikovsky Symphony No.5 [50'], or Rachmaninoff Symphony No.3 [39'], or Rachmaninoff Symphony No.2 [53' with cuts]

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Robert Hart Baker – Repertoire

Your current music director or program committee is welcome to select from the above list, since you know what is on your other programs and what the orchestra and audience would like! However, if I were to choose the program myself, I would propose:

Berlioz: Roman Carnival Overture [8']
Grieg: Three Pieces from Sigurd Jorsalfar [18']

OR

Brahms: Academic Festival Overture [10']
Britten: Four Sea Interludes from "Peter Grimes" [16']
--intermission--
Rachmaninoff: Symphony No.2 in E minor, Op.27 [53' w/cuts]

This is a very colorful and full Romantic program [79 minutes of music] that is enjoyable for the audience and gives each section in the orchestra a chance to shine.

ROBERT HART BAKER - Short notice major works 2015-16 [rev. July 2014]

I have conducted the following major works many times and am available for short notice engagements with larger orchestras:

Barber: Piano Concerto, Violin Concerto, Essays Nos.1 to 3, Knoxville, School for Scandal Overture
Bartok: Concerto for Orchestra, Dance Suite, Divertimento
Beethoven: all 9 Symphonies, Violin Concerto, Triple Concerto, all 5 Piano Concertos, Egmont (complete) Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique, Harold In Italy, Damnation of Faust (complete)
Borodin: Polovetsian Dances, Prince Igor Overture
Brahms: all 4 Symphonies, Violin Concerto, Double Concerto, Piano Concertos Nos. 1 and 2, all overtures
Britten: Sinfonia da Requiem, Simple Symphony, Young Persons Guide To The Orchestra, Four Sea Interludes
Bruckner: Symphonies Nos.3, 4 and 8, Psalm 150, Te Deum
Chausson: Poeme, Symphony in B-flat
Copland: Music for a Great City, Appalachian Spring, Rodeo, Billy The Kid, Fanfare For The Common Man
Debussy: Images, La Mer, Nocturnes, Afternoon of a Faun
Dukas: Sorcerer's Apprentice, La Peri
Fanfare
Dvorak: Symphonies Nos. 3, 5 to 9, Cello Concerto, Violin Concerto, Mass in D, Te Deum
Elgar: Symphony No.2, Cockaigne, Violin Concerto, Cello Concerto, Enigma Variations, In The South, Serenade
Franck: Symphony in D minor, Le Chasseur Maudit, Symphonic Variations
Gliere: Horn Concerto, Symphony No. 1 Glinka: Russian Ludmilla Overture
Handel: Water Music, Royal Fireworks Music, Messiah, Judas Maccabeus (complete)
Haydn: Symphonies Nos. 22, 26, 30, 31, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 53, 60, 63, 77 to 104, Nelson & Pauken Masses
Hindemith: Mathis der Mahler, Symphonic Metamorphoses, Nobilissima Visione, French Dances
Hoist: The Planets Ibert: Escales, Divertissement, Concertino da camera
Janacek: Taras Bulba Khachaturian: Spartacus ballet, Masquerade, Piano
Concerto
Kodaly: Dances of Galanta, Hary Janos Suite, Missa Brevis
Lalo: Cello Concerto, Symphonie espagnole Chabrier: Espana, Suite pastorale
Liszt: Les Preludes, Piano Concertos Nos.1 and 2, Malediction, Concerto pathetique, Hungarian Rhapsodies Nos. 2 and 6, Hungarian Fantasy, Malediction, Totentanz
Mahler: Symphonies Nos.1 to 5, Songs of a Wayfarer
Mendelssohn: all 5 Symphonies, Violin Concerto, Piano Concertos Nos.1 & 2, Hebrides Overture, Calm Seas & Properous Voyage Overture, Ruy Blas Overture, St. Paul (complete), Hymn of Praise
Messiaen: Reveil des oiseaux Milhaud: Creation of the World, Scaramouche
Mozart: Symphonies Nos. 1, 14, 20, 25, 28 to 41, all 5 Violin Concertos, Flute Concertos Nos.1 and 2, Piano Concertos Nos. 8, 9, 10, 14, 17 to 27, Sinfonia Concertante, Solemn Vespers, Coronation Mass, Requiem, Clarinet Concerto, Flute & Harp Concerto, Oboe Concerto, Bassoon Concerto, all Overtures
Orff: Carmina Burana Ravel: Alborada, Bolero, Piano Concerto in G, Daphnis & Chloe, Rapsodie espagnole
Prokofiev: complete Romeo & Juliet ballet, Symphonies Nos. 1 and 5, Alexander Nevsky, Lt.Kije, Piano Concertos Nos. 1 and 3, Peter And The Wolf
Rachmaninoff: all 3 Symphonies, Symphonic Dances, all 4 piano concertos, Rhapsody, The Bells

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Respighi: Pines of Rome, Fountains of Rome, Roman Festivals
Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade, Symphony No.2, Russian Easter, Sinfonietta, Le Coq d'Or
Saint-Saens: Symphony No.3 "Organ", Piano Concerto No.2, Cello Concerto No.1
Schubert: Symphonies Nos. 1, 3, 5, 8 and 9
Schumann: all 4 Symphonies, Piano Concerto
Shostakovich: Symphonies Nos. 1, 5, 6, 9,10,11 and 12, Piano Concerto No.2, all overtures
Sibelius: Symphonies Nos. 1, 2,3, 5 and 7, Karelia Overture & Suite, Violin Concerto
Strauss: Don Juan, Death & Transfiguration, Ein Heldenleben, Rosenkavalier Suite,
Also Sprach Zarathustra, Till Eulenspiegel, Oboe Concerto
Stravinsky: Rite of Spring, Firebird, Petrouchka, Divertimento, Orpheus, Danses concertantes, Pulcinella
Tchaikovsky: all 6 Symphonies, Nutcracker, Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, Violin Concerto,
all three Piano Concertos, Francesca da Rimini, Hamlet, Voyevode, Romeo and Juliet
Verdi: Requiem, La Forza del Destino Overture, Nabucco Overture, I Vespri Siciliani Overture

Short notice operas:

Barber: Anthony & Cleopatra Donizetti: Don Pasquale
Bizet: Carmen
Haydn: Philemon & Baucis
Meiman: Ring of the Fettucines
Menotti: Amahl & The Night Visitors, The Medium, The Consul
Mozart: Marriage of Figaro, La Clemenza di Tito
Puccini: La Boheme, Madama Butterfly
Rossini: La Cenerentola, Barber of Seville
Shostakovich: Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk
Sondheim: Follies
Sullivan: Pirates of Penzance, Trial By Jury
Verdi: La Traviata, Rigoletto

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For Booking Information contact:

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

Regional Symphony Orchestra

Suggested Season Repertoire 2016-17 w/timings from

Music Director candidate **Robert Hart Baker**

Masterpiece Concert #1 (Sept 2016)

Theme: "Passport to London"

Wagner: "Die Meistersinger" Overture [9']

Haydn: Symphony No.104 in D major, "London" [29']

—intermission—

Sibelius: Finlandia, Op.26 [8']

Elgar: Enigma Variations, Op.36 [29']

Masterpiece Concert #2 (Oct 2016)

Theme: "Revelry In Central Europe"

Brahms: Academic Festival Overture, Op.80 [10']

Dvorak: Slavonic Dances (suite drawn from Opp.46&72) [35']

—intermission—

Beethoven: Symphony No.6 in F major, Op.68 "Pastorale" [39']

Young Persons Program — "Storm Chasers" (Oct/Nov 2016)

Wagner: Flying Dutchman Overture

Debussy: Nuages (Clouds)

Vivaldi: Winter, Movements I and II

Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 "Pastorale" excerpt (storm)

Ferde Grofe: Cloudburst (excerpt) from Grand Canyon Suite

Johann Strauss: Thunder and Lightning Polka

Christmas Pops Concert With Chorus (Nov/Dec 2016)

Masterpiece Concert #3 (Jan 2017)

Theme: "From Russia With Love"

Rimsky-Korsakov: Capriccio espagnol, Op.34 [15']

Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No.2 in C minor, Op.18 [33']

Guest Artist TBA (pianist)

—intermission—

Liszt: Les Preludes (Symphonic Poem No.3) [16']

Khachaturian: Excerpts from "Spartacus" (drawn from Suites 1-3) [32']

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

Masterpiece Concert #4 (Feb 2017)

Theme: "Spanish And Latin-American Perspectives"

Juan Crisostomo Arriaga: Overture to "Los Esclavos Felices" [8']

Emmanuel Chabrier: Espana [8']

Heitor Villa-Lobos: Concerto for Harmonica (1956) [22']

Robert Bonfiglio, harmonica

—intermission—

Manuel de Falla: Spanish Dance No.1 from "La Vida Breve" [4']

Maurice Ravel: Rapsodie espagnole [16']

Arturo Marquez: Danzon No.2 [10']

OR

Masterpiece Concert #4 (Feb 2017)

Theme: "The French Connection"

Thomas: Overture to "Mignon" [8']

Saint-Saens: Violin Concerto No.3 in B minor, Op.61 [29']

Guest Artist TBA (violinist)

—intermission—

Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique, Op.14 [49']

Messiah Performance With Chorus (March 2017)

OR

Masterpiece Concert (March 2017)

Theme: "The Power of Percussion"

Ginastera: Dances from "Estancia" [13']

Russell Peck: The Glory And The Grandeur (featuring the orchestra's percussion section) [12']

—intermission—

Stravinsky: Infernal Dance, Lullaby and Finale from "The Firebird" [12']

Mussorgsky-Ravel: Pictures At An Exhibition [30']

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

Pops Concert (April 2017)

Theme: "A Tribute To Henry Mancini," with vocalist Monica Mancini

Part I:

Peter Gunn (Television Theme), arr. Calvin Custer [2']

Mancini Memories, arr. Marty Gold [3']

medley includes *Breakfast At Tiffany's* and *Baby Elephant Walk*

Moon River, arr. John Moss [4']

Pennywhistle Jig from "The Molly Maguires", arr. John Moss [2']

The Pink Panther, an. John Cacavas [2']

A Tribute To Henry Mancini, arr. Calvin Custer [4']

medley includes *Charade*, *Days Of Wine And Roses*, *Peter Gunn* (reprise)

—intermission—

Part II: Monica Mancini In Concert [60 to 75 minutes continuous show]

Masterpiece Concert #5 (May 2017)

Theme: "Audience Favorites"

Mozart: Overture to "The Marriage Of Figaro", K.492 [4']

Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite No.1 [15']

Copland: Four Dance Episodes from "Rodeo" [18']

Buckaroo Holiday, *Corral Nocturne*, *Saturday Night Waltz*, *Hoe Down*

—intermission—

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.5 in E minor, Op.64 [50']

Sample Concerts Spring 2011 Programmed & Conducted By Robert Hart Baker

St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Classical Subscription Concert #3, Friday evening, March 11, 2011 at 8:00 PM

Desmond Lee Auditorium, 560 Building, Washington University, University City, MO

Mozart: Impresario Overture, K.486 [5']

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Op. 73 "Emperor" [38']

Seth Carlin, piano

--intermission--

Bruckner: Symphony No. 3 in D minor, "Wagner Symphony" [57']

Summary of Required Musicians: 2/2/2/2 4/3/3/0 Timp perc; Strings 14/12/10/10/6

Totals: 20 winds & 52 strings = 72 musicians

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

York Symphony Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Masterworks Subscription Concert #4, Saturday evening, March 19, 2011 at 8:00 PM,

Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center, 50 N. George St., York, PA

"Czech It Out" (with the York Symphony Chorus) [43' + 41' = 84']

Dvorak: Mass in D major, Op. 86 [43']

Teresa Anstatt, soprano; Gwendolyn Bowers, alto; Christopher Waite, tenor;

Michael Anderson, bass

With the York Symphony Chorus, Robert Hart Baker, director

--intermission--

Dvorak: Symphony No. 6 in D major, Op. 60 [41']

Summary of Required Musicians: 2/2/2/2 4/2/3/1 Timp organ; Strings 12/10/8/8/6

Totals: 20 winds & 44 strings = 64 musicians

York Symphony Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Masterworks Subscription Concert #5, Saturday evening, April 16, 2011 at 8:00 PM,

Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center, 50 N. George St., York, PA at 8:00 PM

"Totally Tchaikovsky" (with guest violin soloist Rachel Lee)

Tchaikovsky: Marche Slave, Op. 31 [10']

Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 35 [33']

Rachel Lee, violin

--intermission--

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Op. 36 [44']

Summary of Required Musicians: 4/2/2/2 4/4/3/1 Timp 3 perc Strings 12/10/8/8/6

Totals: 26 winds & 44 strings = 70 musicians

St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Classical Subscription Concert #4, Friday evening, April 29, 2011 at 8:00 PM

Desmond Lee Auditorium, 560 Building, Washington University, University City, MO

Rossini: Overture to *The Italian Girl in Algiers* [9']

Dvorak: Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major, Op. 10 [33']

--intermission--

Chabrier: Espana [8']

Ravel: Alborado del gracioso [8']

Ravel: La Valse [12']

Summary of Required Musicians: 3/3/3/3 4/4/3/1 Timp 6 perc 2 harps; Strings 14/12/10/10/6

Totals: 33 winds & 52 strings = 85 musicians

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

York Symphony Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Cool Sounds Subscription Concert #5, Saturday evening, May 7, 2011 at 8:00 PM,

Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center, 50 N. George St., York, PA at 8:00 PM

"Harmonically Yours" (The King of the Harmonica Plays Music by The King!)

With harmonica soloist Robert Bonfiglio

[42' +26'= 68' plus soloist encores]

Franz von Suppe: Poet & Peasant Overture [10']

Arturo Marquez: Danzon No.2 [10']

Heitor Villa-Lobos: Concerto for Harmonica (1956) [22']

Robert Bonfiglio, harmonica

--Intermission--

Franz Liszt: Hungarian Rhapsody No.2 in C minor (an. Karl Muller-Berghaus) [11']

Eric Knight, arr.: Elvis Lives Medley [15']

Robert Bonfiglio, harmonica

Summary of Required Musicians 2/2/2/2 4/3/3/1 Timp 4perc harp piano Strings 12/10/8/8/6

Totals: 26 Winds & 44 Strings=70 musicians

Harrisburg Choral Society & Orchestra concert "Of Faith And Fate"

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Sunday afternoon concert, May 15, 2011 at 3:00 PM, at Sunoco Theater of the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts, 222 Market Street at Court St., Harrisburg, PA

Haydn: Mass in Time of War (aka "Paukenmesse" or "Missa in tempore belli")

Teresa Anstatt, soprano; Gwendolyn Bowers, alto; Christopher Waite, tenor;

Michael Anderson, bass

--intermission--

Brahms: Naenie, Op.82

Kodaly: Missa Brevis

Totals: 14 Winds & 12 Strings = 26 musicians

York Symphony Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Outdoor Patriotic Concert with Fireworks, Monday, July 4, 2011, York Fairgrounds, 8:00 PM

With York Symphony Chorus, and members of the York Youth Symphony and York Junior Symphony Orchestras

Special guest solo artist: **Laura Heydt-Adams**, soprano

Special guest solo group: **Little Ivory Blues Band**

Aaron Lewis, Vocals/Blues Harp

Garrett Stoner, Guitar

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

Ian Staley, Drums/Percussion

Alex Degnan, Bass

Lucas Hough, Keyboards

Logan Kurtek, Saxophone

***The York Symphony Chorus**, Robert Hart Baker, director

Members of **The York Junior Symphony**, Kathleen Yeater, director; Members of **The York Youth**

Symphony, Gregory Woodbridge, director

PROGRAM THEME: LET FREEDOM RING (54 minutes total of music played by YSO)

Part I — Our Patriotic Pride

*John Stafford Smith: The Star-Spangled Banner (**Laura Heydt-Adams**)

*Bob Lowden: Armed Forces Salute (*audience sing-along*, with **Laura Heydt-Adams**)

The Caisson Song (Army); Semper Paratus (Coast Guard);

The Marine's Hymn; Wild Blue Yonder (Air Force); Anchors Aweigh (Navy)

*Irving Berlin: God Bless America (Symphonic Portrait, arr. Hawley Ades) (**Laura Heydt-Adams**)

*Samuel Ward: America The Beautiful (**Laura Heydt-Adams**)

Morton Gould: American Salute (When Johnny Comes Marching Home

Part II — Celebration of the American Blues Tradition

With guest performers, Little Ivory Blues Band

Aaron Lewis, Vocals/Blues Harp

Garrett Stoner, Guitar

Ian Staley, Drums/Percussion

Alex Degnan, Bass

Lucas Hough, Keyboards

Logan Kurtek, Saxophone

(LIBB Solo original number with Chorus & Symphony) *Abandon Ship

(LIBB Solo original number with Chorus) *Bang My Head

(LIBB Rock number with Chorus & Symphony) *Rolling Stones: You Can't Always Get What You Want

(LIBB Patriotic number with Symphony) Battle Hymn of the Republic [based on *Steffe/Wilhousky: Battle Hymn Of The Republic arrangement]

E.E. Bagley: National Emblem March

John Philip Sousa: The Glory of the Yankee Navy March

John Philip Sousa: Semper Fidelis March

J.P. Sousa/C. McAlister: The Fairest of the Fair March

John Williams: Raiders' March from "Indiana Jones"

*Helen Steele: America Our Heritage (arr. Hawley Ades)

Part III —Traditional Sing-Alongs (with **Laura Heydt-Adams**)

*Al Jacobs: This Is My Country (*audience sing-along with chorus*) arr. Roy Ringwald & Hawley Ades)

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Robert Hart Baker – Sample Programs

*John Philip Sousa: The Stars and Stripes Forever March

Part IV— Musical finale

*P.I. Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture & Fireworks (with **Laura Heydt-Adams**)

4th of July 2011 orchestration summary: *3/*2/*3/2 4/4/3/1 Timp 4 perc harp elec.keyboard/organ

Strings 10/8/6/⁶/₄

Totals: 29 Winds & 34 Strings=63 musicians

St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra

Conducted by Robert Hart Baker

Summer Pops Concert, Queeny Park Indoor Arena, Friday evening, August 5, 2011 at 8:00 PM

Philharmonic By Request —An Evening of Symphonic Pops and Light Classics Chosen By Our Audience

Poet & Peasant Overture (finale) Franz von Suppe

Themes from the films Stars Wars, Superman, Harry Potter, Raiders Of The Lost Ark, E.T.

(suite of original film scores) John Williams

Star Wars Suite: Main Title, Princess Leia's Theme, Throne Room, Imperial March

A Tribute To John Williams: Theme from "Superman", Harry's Wondrous World from "Harry Potter",

Raiders March from "Raiders Of The Lost Ark", Adventures On Earth (Flying Theme) from "E.T."

.....adapted by Paul Lavender

Theme from the film "More" (Boston Pops version) Rizziero Ortolani, arr. Richard Hayman

Themes from "Phantom Of The Opera" Andrew Lloyd Webber, arr. Calvin Custer

Phantom of the Opera, Think of Me, Angel of Music, All I Ask of You, Masquerade, Music of the Night

Memory from "Cats" Andrew Lloyd Webber, arr. Bob Lowden

Leroy Anderson Favorites arr. Calvin Custer

Blue Tango, Belle of the Ball, Syncopated Clock, Serenata

Fiddle Faddle Leroy Anderson

--intermission--

Tara's Theme from the film "Gone With The Wind" Max Steiner, arr. Frank Campbell-Watson

Hoe Down from "Rodeo" Aaron Copland

Duke Ellington Selections arr. Calvin Custer

Don't Get Around Much, Do Nothin' Till You Hear from Me, Sophisticated

Lady, It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)

Frank Sinatra Hits (Salute to 01' Blue Eyes) arr. John Moss

Strangers In The Night, That's Life, Lady Is A Tramp, I've Got You Under My Skin

Themes from the film "Pirates of the Caribbean" Klaus Badelt, arr. Ted Ricketts

Fog Bound, He's A Pirate, One Last Shot, The Black Pearl, The Medallion Calls, To the Pirates Cave

Lord of the Dance Ronan Hardiman, arr. Larry Moore

Lord of the Dance, Cry of the Celts

Radetsky March, Op.228 Johann Strauss, Sr.

Encore: The Stars & Stripes Forever March John Philip Sousa, arr. Keith Brion

Orchestration summary: *3/*2/*3/2 4/4/3/1 Timp 4 perc harp elec.keyboard/organ

Strings 16/14/14/12/6

Totals: 29 Winds & 62 Strings=91 musicians

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Robert Hart Baker – Curriculum Vitae

Curriculum vitae: Robert Hart Baker, conductor

Home address: 1301 Highway K, Saint Clair, MO 63077-3432

Cellphone: (717) 847-1155; Fax (636) 322-1295

E-mail: RobertHartB@aol.com

Objective: To be Music Director/Conductor of professional orchestras and opera companies; to teach at the college/conservatory level.

Current Positions:

Music Director and Conductor, St. Louis (MO) Philharmonic Orchestra, 1982—present

Received 2004 Telly Award (national), best classical local cable TV production

(HEC-TV Holiday Spectacular educational broadcast and DVD)

Conducted 5 classical subscription, 2 pops concerts per season

Raised level of musicianship of orchestra players and caliber of guest artists

Made commercial recordings of Dvorak: Symphony No.8 and Holst: The Planets

Principal Guest Conductor, Asheville (NC) Lyric Opera, 2004—present

Conducted 1 major staged opera production per season

Music Director and Conductor, Cadenza Orchestra, as staff member of St. Charles County

Youth Orchestra, MO 2014—present

Conducted 2 major classical programs per season

Previous Orchestral Positions:

Music Director Emeritus and Conductor, Harrisburg (PA) Choral Society, 2004—2013

Conducted 2 oratorio/major choral work concerts with orchestra per season

Adjunct Faculty, Penn State York (PA), 2005—2013 (courses in choral and instrumental music)

Music Director Laureate and Conductor, York (PA) Symphony Orchestra, 1983—2013

Received ASOL Volunteer Council Awards (national) for Saturday Morning Symphony

(2005), and Student Song Contest (2003) educational outreach programs Conducted 5

classical subscription, 5 pops, 2 educational concerts per season

Helped increase annual budget from \$80,000 to \$800,000; added Pops-in-the-park series Raised level of musicianship of orchestra players and caliber of guest artists

Music Director and Conductor Laureate, Asheville (NC) Symphony Orchestra, 1981-2004

Conducted 6 classical subscription, 3 pops, 1 educational concert, 1 opera per season

Helped increase annual budget from \$100,000 to \$800,000

Raised level of musicianship of orchestra players and caliber of guest artists

Made commercial recordings of Brahms, Mahler symphonies and Strauss tone poems

Music Director and Conductor Laureate, York (PA) Youth Symphony, 1987-1999

Conducted 3 classical subscription, 3 educational/run-out concerts per season Performed on tour in Heinz Hall (Pittsburgh), Carnegie Hall (New York)

Music Director and Conductor, New York Youth Symphony at Carnegie Hall, 1977-1981

Conducted 3 classical subscription, 3 educational/run-out concerts per season

Introduced chamber music and contemporary music commissions for young composers

Music Director and Conductor, Putnam (NY) Symphony Orchestra, 1979-1981

Music Director and Conductor, Danbury (CT) Little Symphony, 1978-1980

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Robert Hart Baker – Curriculum Vitae

Founding Music Director and Conductor, Connecticut Philharmonic Orchestra, 1976-2001
Music Director and Conductor, Bach Society Orchestra, Cambridge, MA, 1972-74

College Teaching Experience:

Adjunct Instructor in Oboe, Lindenwood University, MO, 2014—present
Taught Woodwind Techniques, oboe, and World Music

Director of Orchestral Activities, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, 1985-1990
Conducted 3 classical full orchestra and 2 classical chamber orchestra concerts per season

Adjunct Associate Professor of Music, University of North Carolina at Asheville, 1981-2001
Taught music history, aural skills, orchestral conducting, oboe; interim chair 1995-96
Gave special seminars on Hindemith, Stravinsky, Verdi, Puccini, Wagner, & chamber music

Director of Choral Activities, State University of New York at Purchase, 1978-1980
Visiting Adjunct Professor of Music, Mars Hill College, NC, 1996-1998
Taught music history and oboe

Guest Conducting:

American: Boston Pops, Billings, Cheyenne, Flagstaff, Chattanooga, Rhode Island Philharmonic, Radio City Music Hall (NYC), West Shore (Muskegon, MI), Roanoke, Quincy (IL) and Harrisburg (PA) Symphony Orchestras; Chamber Orchestras: Cumberland Valley (PA), South Carolina Philharmonic; Pennsylvania Centre Orchestra (State College, PA)

International: Orquestra do Norte (Porto, Portugal); Sabadell (Barcelona, Spain); Symphonic Orchestra of Zurich (Switzerland); Virtuoso Strings of Messina (Sicily); Pusan Symphony (Korea); Szeged Philharmonic (Hungary); Vratza State Philharmonic (Bulgaria); State of Mexico Symphony Orchestra (OSEM); Regina Symphony (Canada)

Opera and Ballet Conducting:

Asheville (NC) Lyric Opera—Carmen, Don Pasquale, La Boheme, Pirates of Penzance, La Traviata, Madama Butterfly, Barber of Seville
Brevard Music Center—Carmen; Connecticut Opera—Madama Butterfly
Cullowhee Music Festival—Music Director & Conductor, 1987-1989
La Traviata, Rigoletto, Marriage of Figaro
Festival of the Two Worlds, Spoleto, Italy and Charleston, SC—Assistant Conductor, 1977-1983
Worked on productions with Gian Carlo Menotti, Christian Badea & Joseph Flummerfelt
The Medium, La Cenerentola, The Merry Widow, Amahl, Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk
Conducted performance of Samuel Barber's Anthony and Cleopatra
Lecce, Italy--Prokofiev: Romeo & Juliet [complete ballet] (Tito Schipa Opera Orchestra, 2003)

Other Experience:

Artistic Consultant, Price Rubin & Partners artist management firm, Tulsa, OK, 2014—present
Baroque music editor and arranger, English Chamber Orchestra, London, 1970-73
Wrote ornamentation for Handel Water Music & Royal Fireworks Music, Vanguard Records
Oboe soloist, Brevard (NC) Chamber Orchestra, Abendmusik Chamber Orchestra, York, PA
Oboe soloist, Palaces of St. Petersburg Chamber Music Festival, Russia, 1995-1997
Oboe soloist, York Symphony Orchestra, Bach Concerto for Oboe & Violin with Odin Rathnam, violin, York, PA, 2009
Guest oboist, Performers of Westchester Chamber Music Series, New York, 2005
Orchestral oboist (substitute), North Carolina Symphony, Chamber Orchestra of New England Orchestral
English hornist, Yale Philharmonia (under Solti, Boulez, Jussi Jalas, Copland, Penderecki)

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Robert Hart Baker – Curriculum Vitae

Education:

Studies (piano, theory, oboe) at Manhattan School of Music Preparatory Division, NYC, 1969-71
Diplomas in Oboe & Chamber Music, Academie Internationale d'ete, Nice, France, 1970
Diploma in Conducting, Mozarteum Conservatory, Salzburg, Austria, 1971
High School Diploma, Horace Mann School, Riverdale, NY, 1971
A.B. *cum laude*, Harvard College, Cambridge, MA, 1974
M.Mus. in orchestral conducting, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1976
M.M.A. in orchestral conducting, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1978
D.M.A. in orchestral conducting, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1987
Doctor of Humane Letters (honorary), York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA, 1999

Awards and Honors:

George Jellinek and Beethoven (John Green) Medals in Music, Horace Mann School, 1971
Leonard Bernstein Music Scholarship, Harvard College, 1972-74
National Federation of Music Clubs, Composition Award, 1977
ASCAP contemporary music programming awards
1977, New York Youth Symphony; 1986, York (PA) Symphony Orchestra

Private conducting teachers:

Herbert von Karajan (1971), Henry Bloch (1969-71), Johannes Somary (1969-71), Leonard Bernstein (1972-74), James Yannatos (1971-74), Aaron Copland (1975-76), Otto-Werner Mueller (1974-78), Arthur Weisberg (1986-87)

Conducting masterclasses:

Lorin Maazel, Sergiu Commissiona, William Steinberg, Harold Farberman, Morton Gould, Maurice Abravanel, Morton Gould, Jorge Mester

Private oboe lessons:

James Byars (NYC Ballet), Henry Schuman (Manhattan School of Music), Ralph Gomberg (Boston Symphony), Thomas Stacy (NY Philharmonic), Robert Bloom and Ronald Roseman (Yale School of Music)

Publications/Recordings:

Arranger: Borodin—Nocturne for String Orchestra, LP and CD released on Vanguard Records
Conductor: Liszt—Piano Concertos (Richard Frank), Szeged Philharmonic, Hungary, CD on Denon & Aurefon Records
Conductor: Brahms—Symphonies Nos.1&3, Mahler Symp. No.4, Dvorak Symp.No.8, Strauss
Till Eulenspiegel, works of Caryl Florio, Asheville Symphony Orchestra CDs on Sonari Records
Conductor: Holst—Planets, Wagner Rienzi Overture, Ravel Daphnis & Chloe Suite No.2,
St. Louis Philharmonic CDs on Sonari Records; HEC-TV "2010 Holiday Pops Concert" DVD
Mario Frangoulis and Friends—conductor on Blu-ray disc, St. Louis Philharmonic for Horatio Alger Society 2012
Conductor: Mendelssohn—Violin Concerto (David Perry), Cullowhee Music Festival Orchestra CD, Sonari Records
Conductor: Liszt—Malediction, Strauss Don Juan, Cullowhee Music Festival Orchestra CD on CMF label
Conductor: Bloch—Symphony in C-sharp minor, St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra, LP released
on Ernest Bloch Society Records

Soloists Accompanied With Orchestra:

Pianists: Joaquin Achucarro, Dickran Atamian, Seth Carlin, Misha Dichter, James Dick, Sergei Edelmann, Claude Frank, Adam Golka, Yuliya Gorenman, Eric Himy, Valentina Igoshina, Yakov Kazman, Richard Kogan, Leonid Kuzmin, Oleg Marshev, Anne-Marie McDermott, Christopher O'Riley, Constantine Orbelian, Thomas Pandolfi, Natasha Paremski, Alexander Peskanov, Dimitri Ratser, Avis Romm, Roman Rudnitsky,

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Robert Hart Baker – Curriculum Vitae

Peter Serkin, Boris Slutsky, Vladimir Stoupe, Andre Watts and Jingyi Zhang. Violinists: Joshua Bell, Lynn Chang, Sarah Chang, Pip Clarke, Pamela Frank, David Halen, Daniel Heifetz, Ilya Kaler, Rachel Lee, Janice Martin, Stefan Milenkovich, Kurt Nikkanen, David Perry, Mark Peskanov, Philippe Quint Anna Rabinova, Aaron Rosand and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg. Violists: Paul Neubauer, Andy Simionescu. Cellists: Ani Aznavoorian, Zuill Bailey, Carter Brey, David Finckel, Daniel Gaisford, Richard Hirschl, Scott Kluksdahl, Daniel Lee, Janos Starker and Paul Tobias. Saxophonists: Paul Cohen, James Houlik and Branford Marsalis. Flutists: James Galway and Carol Wincenc. English hornist: Thomas Stacy. Clarinetists: Hakan Rosengren and David Shifrin. Trumpeters: Stephen Burns, David Hickman and Ronald Romm. French hornists: Roger Kaza, Richard Todd. Percussionist: Lisa Pegher. Harpsichordist: Gretchen Dekker. Guitarist: Angel Romero. Harmonica soloist: Robert Bonfiglio. Sopranos: Angela Brown, Lindsey McKee, Lisa Williamson. Mezzo-sopranos: Gwendolyn Bowers and Jennifer Larmore. Tenors: Tonio Di Paolo, Mario Frangoulis, Daniel Rodriguez. Baritones: David Malis and Sherrill Milnes.

Musical References with address, phone and e-mail:

Pamela Frank, concert violinist, 52 Junard Drive, Morris Township, NJ 07960 tel (973-656-0948) cell (347) 262-8002 fax (973) 656-1942 [no e-mail]

Daniel Heifetz, concert violinist, 2658 Legends Way, Ellicott City, MD 21042 tel (410) 461-1890 (home) office tel (410) 480-8006 Sept-May office (jadeproductions.com) / (603) 515-3156 June-Aug office@heifetzinstitute.org

Pamela Grooms, Music Department Chair, Lindenwood University, tel (636) 949-4320 (office) 209 South Kingshighway Street, St Charles, MO 63301 pgrooms@lindenwood.edu

Ronald Romm, trumpet soloist, founding member Canadian Brass, cellphone (941) 780-5317 4099 Higley Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34242 ronromm@yahoo.com

Dr. Joyce Dorr, professor of music (retired), UNC-Asheville, tel (828) 258-1206 (home) 169 Cherokee Road, Asheville, NC 28804 jdorr@comcast.net or jdorr@unca.edu

Employment References with address, phone and e-mail:

William R. Hartman, board president, York Symphony Orchestra

First Vice Chair, York County Community Foundation, 14 West Market Street, York, PA 17401 [office (717) 848-3733] WHartman@YCCF.org

Marilyn Humiston, president, St. Louis Philharmonic, tel (636) 537-0405 (home)

14772 Timberbluff Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [cell (636) 346-3844] marilyn.humiston@vahoo.com

Doug Kenner, board member and violinist, St. Louis Philharmonic, cellphone (314) 330-4169

3615 Olive St #2102, St. Louis, MO 63108 doug@dougkenner.com

Judy Williams, manager, St Charles County Youth Orchestra, cellphone (636) 699-5947

P.O. Box 547, Saint Peters, MO 63376 sccyo@sccyo.org

Karen Wix, former volunteer council member, League of America Orchestras (formerly ASOL)

1119 Turnberry Lane, York, PA 17403 (717) 843-0823 (home) kandrwix@comcast.net

Steven Hageman, former executive director, Asheville Symphony Orchestra, tel (828) 254-7046

(work) P.O. Box 2852, Asheville, NC 28802 [cell (828) 275-3027] srhageman@ashevillesymphonv.org

Personal Management: Christopher Ling, CHL Artists, Inc., 13547 Ventura Blvd #192,

Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3825; tel (818) 501-0240; e-mail chris@CHLartists.com

Testimonials from Daniel Heifetz and Joyce Don viewable on website: www.CHLartists.com

[updated May 2015, 3 pages total]

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Robert Hart Baker – Reference Letters

Dr. Joyce R. Dorr
169 Cherokee Road
Asheville, NC 28804
828-258-1206

May 8, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure and a privilege to provide a letter of recommendation for a position of music director and conductor for Robert Hart Baker. Approximately twenty-two years ago I served on the committee that selected Dr. Baker for this role for the developing Asheville Symphony. He was clearly the perfect choice.

The orchestra at that time was a non-professional and struggling group. Due to quality limitations, many of the area's best musicians were unwilling to perform in this orchestra. It is to Dr. Baker's credit that he was able to attract these musicians, many of whom have performed regularly throughout his tenure here. The stature of the orchestra -- in every facet -- has improved immensely over these years. It is now an orchestra in which the community takes great pride..

With his excellent conducting skills, his enormous knowledge of repertoire and musicology, and his outstanding courtesy and encouragement -- to musicians, board, management and audience alike -- Robert has brought the Asheville Symphony to an outstandingly heightened level of performance and audience support. His ability to communicate the music both from the podium and in speaking to pre-concert groups and to audiences is most remarkable and commendable.

I have worked with Robert in many different capacities. I was a member of the board for eighteen years, vice president for artistic policies for many years and president for two years. I can truthfully say that not only is Dr. Baker an inspired musician but he also thoroughly understands budgets, finances and the overall management aspects of the symphony organization. I also had the opportunity to work with Robert at the University of North Carolina Asheville in a variety of roles. In every case I have found him to be a skilled leader, a superb faculty colleague, and most significantly, an outstanding musician.

I would be happy to respond further to any questions you might have. Please feel free to contact me at the above address or phone number.

Sincerely yours,

Joyce R. Dorr

[electronic signature]

Dr. Joyce R. Dorr

Director Emeritus of the Asheville Symphony Board of Directors

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Robert Hart Baker – Reference Letters

Harry H. Hill Jr.
112 Carter Heights Drive
Gaffney, SC 29340
ghks@cherco.net

1 May 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. Robert Hart Baker has asked me to write a letter of recommendation. It is with great pleasure that I do so as I hold the utmost respect for Dr. Baker as a musician and conductor.

I have known Bob since 1985, working under his baton with the Asheville Symphony Orchestra (ASO) in Asheville, North Carolina. Under his leadership, the quality of the ASO has steadily improved becoming a well-respected orchestra in the Southeast. I've been fortunate to work with Bob performing all types of works including orchestral, opera, ballet, choral, chamber, and solo - music from the baroque period to modern day works. He is comfortable conducting in each of these mediums and genres and his performances have always been successful.

Bob has many outstanding qualities as a conductor. He has an excellent ear, superb and consistent baton technique, and a genuine respect for the musicians with whom he works. Likewise, he is also respected by the musicians. He shows a preparedness at rehearsals and an in-depth understanding of the music from a historical and theoretical perspective.

Another of Dr. Baker's wonderful attributes is his rapport with the audience. He shows and creates a relaxed atmosphere with the audience while maintaining a high level of performance. During many of our Pops and Educational Outreach Concerts, Bob often speaks to the audience. His fabulous sense of humor frequently has the audience as well as the musicians chuckling.

Bob's musicianship is first-rate. He has a keen sense of the musical line and is able to shape and mold the parts around it. Bob has proven himself flexible as well working with a variety of soloists from various cultures, backgrounds, and temperaments.

I have worked under many well-known conductors including Robert Shaw, Louis Lane, Sarah Caldwell, John Nelson, Christian Badea, William Fred Scott, Edvard Tchvitzhel, and Otto Werner Mueller. Many of my fondest musical memories and performances have been with the Asheville Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Robert Hart Baker. I give him my highest recommendation as a music director and conductor.

Sincerely,

Harry H. Hill, Jr. [electronic signature]

Harry H. Hill Jr.
Principal Clarinet
Asheville Symphony Orchestra

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Robert Hart Baker – Reference Letters

Gail V. Rehman
P.O. Box 299
East Prospect, PA 17317
[e-mail: gvr41@yahoo.com](mailto:gvr41@yahoo.com)
telephone (717) 840-0252

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION (1987) FOR **ROBERT HART BAKER**

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Dr. Baker for 13 years, playing under his direction in the York Symphony. His thorough preparation of the scores and his manner of communicating to the musicians have earned him our respect and total dedication. He is demanding in a positive manner, and always respectful (rare—almost unique—in my experience with conductors). And so, he is able to solicit our best effort for every concert. Under his leadership, the York Symphony has improved measurably each year.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the York Symphony for six years, I observed and participated in the relationship with Dr. Baker as employee. A Board study to set our course for development identified Robert Hart Baker (Conductor and Musical Director) as the orchestra's most critical strength after surveying musicians, audience, and contributors. He is always reliable, true to his word, and faithful to deadlines: hard to find in a creative personality! In delicate or difficult situations, he is a clear communicator while being tactful, honest, direct, and excellent in negotiating a settlement when necessary. His programming is responsive to the community's tastes, while also introducing them to some new musical experiences. His rapport with the audience is outstanding, attracting and keeping people with his personal and educational commentary.

As Principal Violist, I have been a member of the committee that works with Dr. Baker and the Board to set and administer personnel policy. His intelligence, creativity, and clarity of expression have set high standards for our organization and helped defuse potential problems.

To summarize, Dr. Baker has provided our community—musicians and audience—a most inspiring and enjoyable musical experience, and I would recommend him heartily without any reservation.

Gail Rehman

Gail Rehman [electronic signature]

Gail Rehman, Principal Violist, York (PA) Symphony Orchestra

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Robert Hart Baker – YouTube Video Links

Robert Hart Baker, conductor
YouTube conducting videos (May 2015)

Rehearsal footage, conductor facing camera throughout:

Director at Work: Rehearsing for Mozart's Requiem

Robert Hart Baker conducting the Harrisburg Choral Society and Orchestra in preparation of Spring 2013 performance of the Mozart Requiem. [25:20]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOE38xdP1bM>

Concert footage, conductor facing camera throughout:

York Symphony Orchestra & Chorus

live concert performance, April 13, 2013

Robert Hart Baker, conductor

Elizabeth Weigle, soprano; Dawn Pierce, alto;

Brian Downen, tenor; Christopher Burchett, bass

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, 1st mvt [15:14] HD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jiJsRkJ0qrI>

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, 2nd mvt [10:13] HD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTkzZdsANGY>

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, 3rd mvt [13:44] HD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFUQr7KRaug>

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, 4th mvt [23:05] HD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6hZFymc4Io>

Verdi: Spuntato, ecco il di from "Don Carlo" [5:02] HD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7feDMAp2Ldc>

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Robert Hart Baker – YouTube Video Links

Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast Videos:

Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert

HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013

St Louis Philharmonic Orchestra, Robert Hart Baker, conductor

Un passo verso te - Mario Frangoulis live in Saint Louis [4:14]

Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast

Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert

HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RlrMdXGgEvA>

Un jour, un enfant-Mario Frangoulis live in Saint Louis [4:00]

Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast

Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert

HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7UDmKG45H4>

Time to say goodbye-Mario Frangoulis & Deborah Myers [3:59]

Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast

Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert

HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZymHiGgczvQ>

Xartino to feggaraki - Mario Frangoulis Live in Saint Louis [3:25]

Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast

Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert

HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrgjvsamVBA>

Broadway Musical medley-Mario Frangoulis & Deborah Myers

Live in Saint Louis [6:53]

Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast

Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert

HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjxdCd5DFQ>

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Robert Hart Baker – YouTube Video Links

Excerpts from playing in SLPO with Mario Frangoulis and Friends [1:47]
Windmills Of Your Mind with George Parris and
Music Of The Night with Mario Frangoulis
Pops Concert Public Television Broadcast
Mario Frangoulis (tenor) And Friends In Concert
HEC-TV broadcast, St. Louis 2013
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XuysJXZxq7c>

Concert Performance Videos Taken From Audience:

Handel: Utrecht Te Deum [26:21]
Harrisburg Choral Society & Orchestra
live concert performance May 3, 2013
Colette Boudreaux, soprano; Gwendolyn Bowers, alto;
Scott Joiner, tenor; John Darrenkamp, bass
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eURxPbyeUHU>

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1 in B-flat minor, 1st mvt, part 1 [8:14]
Saint Louis Philharmonic Orchestra
live concert performance video taken from audience, March 7, 2010
Valentina Igoshina, piano
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REqyBigLQQY>

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1 in B-flat minor, 1st mvt, part 2 [8:41]
Saint Louis Philharmonic Orchestra
live concert performance video taken from audience, March 7, 2010
Valentina Igoshina, piano
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6BCy3aPIac>

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1 in B-flat minor, 1st mvt, part 3 [8:14]
Saint Louis Philharmonic Orchestra
live concert performance video taken from audience, March 7, 2010
Valentina Igoshina, piano
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyPjRthJUzQ>

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Robert Hart Baker – YouTube Video Links

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1 in B-flat minor, 2nd mvt [7:42]
Saint Louis Philharmonic Orchestra
live concert performance video taken from audience, March 7, 2010
Valentina Igoshina, piano
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhUMkFwY6pw>

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1 in B-flat minor, 3rd mvt [9:20]
Saint Louis Philharmonic Orchestra
live concert performance video taken from audience, March 7, 2010
Valentina Igoshina, piano
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCLQdQAAYDQ>

Bach: Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin, 1st mvt [4:56]
York Symphony Orchestra, live concert performance November 2009
Robert Hart Baker, oboe soloist and conductor
Odin Rathnam, violin soloist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IZlpr0Bo68>

Bach: Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin, 2nd mvt [5:16]
York Symphony Orchestra, live concert performance November 2009
Robert Hart Baker, oboe soloist and conductor
Odin Rathnam, violin soloist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQd9pcUxjOM>

Bach: Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin, 3rd mvt [4:01]
York Symphony Orchestra, live concert performance November 2009
Robert Hart Baker, oboe soloist and conductor
Odin Rathnam, violin soloist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDKQ9PHYPrG>

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